Nombre: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Clase: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Fecha: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Proposito A- *Articulo*

**El muralsimo mexicano**

The first muralists of Mexico were *Pre-Hispanic*. They would decorate the palaces and temples with huge paintings. During the *colonization*, the people would paint the walls of the convents and churches. That is how the custom continued. After the Mexican Revolution, the tradition became known as “Mexican Muralism”. Artists would decorate the walls of public buildings, usually painting the people doing their daily activities.

There are many famous muralists and one of the best is Diego Rivera. He painted murals in important buildings like the *“Palacio Nacional de Mexico”.* Rivera explained that ‘mexican muralism’, for the first time in art history, allowed the use of gods, kings, heroic generals, etc. as central heroes, and made the farmers, factory workers, cities, towns, monumental art heroes’.

Among the many murals that Diego Rivera painted, there is one that represents *EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS*. This celebration is of *Pre-Hispanic* origin and it is born of the belief that the dead “come back” to the “world” of the living once every year. Although they celebrate this holiday in many ways around Mexico, there is almost always an *ofrenda*, a table decorated with flowers, *papel picado* and candles where they offer food and drinks to the dead. They also decorate the graves of their dead family members in the cemeteries. They have a party with music and food in the cemetery at midnight on November 1st that lasts until the morning of November 2nd. This is how they demonstrate their love and affection to those family members they have lost.



Glossary of Terms

*Pre-Hispanic-* time before the conquest of the Americas.

*Colonization-* time after the Americas were colonized.

*“The Palacio Nacional de Mexico”*- The Mexican National Palace; where the President lives.

*“EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS”*- The Day of the Dead

*Ofrenda-* offerings; altars

*Papel Picado-* tissue paper cut into patterns to make garlands